

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An expendables unit mounted on equipment incorporating thereinto a fuel cell for generating  
5 electricity upon receipt of supply of liquid fuel, in which the equipment is operative by electric power from the fuel cell involving consumption of expendables, the expendables unit supplying the expendables to the equipment,

wherein the expendables unit has the expendables  
10 and in addition a liquid fuel storage section that stores a liquid fuel for the fuel cell.

2. An expendables unit according to claim 1,  
wherein the fuel cell generates electricity upon receipt of  
15 supply of liquid fuel and creates liquid to be discharged, and the expendables unit has a discharged liquid storage section that stores a discharged liquid.

3. An expendables unit according to claim 2,  
20 wherein the liquid fuel storage section and the discharged liquid storage section are separated by a flexible partition film.

4. Equipment incorporating thereinto a fuel cell  
25 for generating electricity upon receipt of supply of liquid fuel, in which an expendables unit having expendables is mounted to supply expendables, and the equipment is

operative by electric power from the fuel cell involving consumption of the expendables from the expendables unit,

wherein the expendables unit has the expendables and in addition a liquid fuel storage section that stores a liquid fuel for the fuel cell, and

wherein the equipment has a fuel supplying path for receiving supply of the liquid fuel from the mounted expendables unit.

5. Equipment according to claim 4, wherein the fuel cell generates electricity upon receipt of supply of the liquid fuel and creates liquid to be discharged,

the expendables unit has a discharged liquid storage section that stores the discharged liquid created in the fuel cell, and

the equipment further has a discharged liquid forwarding path for forwarding the discharged liquid created in the fuel cell to the mounted expendables unit.

6. A printer incorporating therein a fuel cell for generating electricity upon receipt of supply of liquid fuel, in which the printer is operative by electric power from the fuel cell, and a detachable ink cartridge storing at least black ink is used to eject ink to a recording medium so that an image is recorded on the recording medium,

wherein the ink cartridge stores together the liquid fuel for the fuel cell.

7. A printer incorporating therein a fuel cell for generating electricity upon receipt of supply of liquid fuel, in which an ink cartridge storing ink is mounted on a carriage, and a recording medium is moved in a process direction, while the carriage is moved in directions perpendicular to the process direction, and the ink stored in the ink cartridge is ejected to the recording medium so that an image is recorded on the recording medium,

10                wherein the ink cartridge stores ink, and has a liquid fuel storage section that stores the liquid fuel, and a water storage section that stores water, and

                 wherein the printer has:

                 the fuel cell having a fuel electrode, an air electrode, and a solid-electrolyte film, in which the fuel electrode receives the liquid fuel and water is discharged through the air electrode;

15                a fuel supplying path for supplying the liquid fuel stored in the liquid fuel storage section to the fuel electrode; and

20                a water forwarding path for forwarding the water discharged from the air electrode to the water storage section.

25                8. A printer according to claim 7, wherein the liquid fuel storage section and the water storage section are separated by a flexible partition film.

9. A printer according to claim 7, wherein the liquid fuel storage section and the water storage section are connected to the fuel supplying path and the water forwarding path, respectively, when the carriage stands by at a predetermined standby position, and the liquid fuel storage section and the water storage section are disconnected from the fuel supplying path and the water forwarding path, respectively, when the carriage moves from the predetermined standby position.

10. A printer according to claim 9, wherein the printer has on the water forwarding path a water tank for saving the water discharged from the air electrode, and a pump for forwarding the water saved in the water tank to the water storage section when the carriage stands by at the predetermined standby position.

11. A printer according to claim 9, wherein the printer has on the fuel supplying path a fuel tank for saving the liquid fuel supplied from the liquid fuel supplying section and supplying the saved liquid fuel to the fuel electrode when the carriage stands by at the predetermined standby position.

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12. A printer according to claim 7, wherein the ink cartridge has a sensor for detecting residue of the

stored ink and liquid fuel.

13. A printer according to claim 7, wherein the  
ink cartridge is of a cylindrical configuration, a bag-  
5 shaped configuration or a sheet-shaped configuration.